

INTRODUCED: 12/6/2021

REFERRED TO: Committee of the Whole

SPONSOR: Councillor Potts

DIGEST: recognizes Kevin Hardie's retirement as Executive Director of Friends of White River

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SOURCE:

Initiated by: Councillor Potts

Drafted by: Councillor Potts

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ADOPTION:

Subject to approval or veto by Mayor

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE:

Adoption and approvals

GENERAL COUNSEL APPROVAL:



Date: December 2, 2021

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CITY-COUNTY SPECIAL RESOLUTION NO. , 2021

A SPECIAL RESOLUTION recognizing Kevin Hardie's retirement as Executive Director of Friends of White River.

WHEREAS, Kevin Hardie is a founding member of the Friends of White River and has been active in the organization since 1985; and

WHEREAS, Friends of White River aims to protect, preserve, and promote the vital resource for communities in Central Indiana by connecting people to the White River; and

WHEREAS, during Kevin's over 30-year history, he has championed efforts to raise awareness about the value of the White River both in the public policy arena and via hands-on activities that directly engage people with it; and

WHEREAS, his service within Friends of White River includes a two-year term as President of the Board of Directors and over 20 years providing leadership as Executive Director; and

WHEREAS, as a tireless advocate for the White River, Kevin has built relationships with a wide variety of local and state conservation organization. He has served on many boards including one of the first mayoral appointees to the White River Greenways Taskforce that was established in the early 1980s, White River Citizens' Advisory Council, White River Greenways Task Force, DNR Trails Advisory Board, Citizen's Energy Technical Advisory Group and the Stakeholder Committee for the White River Vision Plan; and

WHEREAS, he has become a respected advisor for a variety of private and nonprofit organizations as well including Veolia Water, Citizens Energy Group, and the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce, and continues to provide input with initiatives such as the White River Vision Plan and the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust's Partners for the White River; and

WHEREAS, during the aftermath of the devastating fish kill of 1999, Kevin played a key role in building awareness and accountability, as well as helped ensure that funding from the legal settlement was expended wisely; and

WHEREAS, Kevin has guided river tours for thousands of individuals and community leaders and created the River School program giving on-river experiences to hundreds of local students. He has also coordinated countless volunteer cleanup events including the Downtown Cleanup that observed its 33rd

anniversary in 2021, which has resulted in the removal of over two million pounds of debris and illegally dumped garbage from the river and its banks; and

WHEREAS, because of Kevin's leadership, Friends of White River has provided unparalleled opportunities for access & education through direct, hands-on experiences and responsible oversight of sponsored programs, demonstrated stewardship through careful management of resources, direct leadership of cleanup events, and participation in strategic advocacy initiatives, and has achieved a shared vision of a clean, healthy river ecosystem through collaboration with community organizations and individuals; and

WHEREAS, after over 30 years of service, Kevin is retiring as the Executive Director of Friends of White River; now, therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY-COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS AND OF MARION COUNTY, INDIANA:

SECTION 1. The Indianapolis City-County Council proudly recognizes Kevin Hardie's retirement as Executive Director of Friends of White River.

SECTION 2. The Council heartily thanks Kevin for his dedicated service to White River and the community as a whole and wishes him a relaxing retirement.

SECTION 3. The Mayor is invited to join in this resolution by affixing his signature hereto.

SECTION 4. This resolution shall be in full force and effect upon adoption and compliance with IC 36-3-4-14.

The foregoing was passed by the City-County Council this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021, at \_\_\_\_ p.m.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vop Osili  
President, City-County Council

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SaRita Hughes  
Clerk, City-County Council

Presented by me to the Mayor this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SaRita Hughes  
Clerk, City-County Council

Approved and signed by me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph H. Hogsett, Mayor